

3661

Part of Paper No./Mail Date 2004051

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1- through 12 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not disclose the control system incorporating at least one processor connected to the sensor means and the triggering means, the processor having an input pin for activating a non-maskable interrupt routine, said command generated by the processor creating an input to the said input pin of the processor to start said NMI routine; and said NI routine serving to determine whether there are hardware and/or software faults that may invalidate the command, and to interrupt actuation or deployment of the safety devices if any such fault is detected.

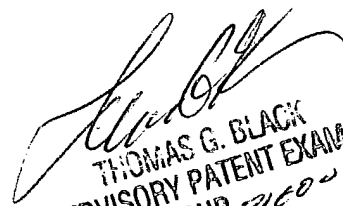
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian J. Broadhead whose telephone number is 703-308-9033. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on 703-305-8233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BJB


THOMAS G. BLACK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 7100